Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

PAGE 01 ANTANA 01617 061426Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-10 IO-13 DHA-05 OMB-01
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/105 W
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R 061200Z SEP 77
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9666
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MAPUUTO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY VICTOIA
CINCPAC
COMIDEASTFOR
CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANTANANARIVO 1617

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MA
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES DIPLOMATIC CORPS; RESTATES FOREIGN POLICY OF DRM (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR)

1. SUMMARY. FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTIAN REMI RICHARD HELD MORNING RECEPTION AT MINISTRY ON SEPTEMBER 2 TO MEET CHIEFS OF MISSIONS AND USED THE OCCASION TO REITERATE DRM'S FOREIGN POLICY IN FAMILIAR TERMS. END SUMMARY.

2. GATHERING WAS OPENED BY CHINESE AMBASSADOR, AS ACTING DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS, WHO CONVEYED BEST WISHES TO DRM FOR CONTIINUED SUCCESS IN CARRYING OUT ITS POLICY OF "TOUS AZIMUTS" AND NON-ALIGNMENT AND ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANTANA 01617 061426Z

COLONIALISM. MOST NOTEWORTHY POINTS OF MINISTER RICHARD'S REPLY WERE AS FOLLOWS:

3. HE STATED THAT HIS SPEECH WAS A RESTATEMENT OF THE CLEAR AND ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES OF DRM POLICY. THIS IS POLICY OF "TOUS AZIMUTS", FIRST ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA AS FOREIGN MINISTER IN 1972. MADAGASCAR WISHES TO BE THE FRIEND OF ALL COUNTRIES, FOR ITS "TOUS AZIMUTS" POLICY IS THE LOGICAL ADJUNCT OF ITS POLICY OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

4. DRM'S "TOUS AZIMUTS" AND "OMNIDIRECTIONAL" POLICY
DOES NOT PRECLUDE CERTAIN SPECIAL AFFINITIES, REGIONAL,
ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND IDEOLOGICAL. DRM IS PART OF
AFRICA, SUPPORTS OAU AND ITS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES, AND
HAD SHOWN ITS REAL INTEREST IN PROBLEMS OF SOTHERN AFRICA
AND PEOPLES OF ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA BY BEING REPRESENTED
AT MAPUTO CONFERENCE. AS AN INDIAN OCEAN COUNTRY IT
SUPPORTS THE CONCEPT OF AN INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE,
"DEMILITARIZED AND DENUCLEARIZED", IN OTHER WORDS A "ZERO
EQUILIBRIUM" FOR NON-REGIONAL MILITARY FORCES. THIS
ATTITUDE IS DICTATED BY DRM'S POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT AND
PEACE. DRM ALSO FULLY CONSCIOUS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP IN UN
AND ITS OBLIGATIONS THERE TO AND HOPES SOON TO EXPOUND
ITS POINT OF VIEW ON PRESENT-DAY WORLD PROBLEMS IN THAT
FORUM.

5. THE DRM'S STRONGEST AFFINITIES, HOWEVER, ARE IN THE
POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL FIELDS. DRM IS A "PROGRESSIST"
OUNTRY AND IS THEREFORE SOLIDARY WITH ALL COUNTRIES IN WORLD,
IN AFRICA, ASIA, EUROPE AND AMERICA, WHO ARE ENGAGED IN
THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, HEGEMONISM, AND RACISM.
"DRM HAS NO ENEMIES BUT IS THE SWORN ENEMY OF ALL EBENIES
OF THE AFRICAN REVOLUTION AND PROGRESSIVE COUNTRIES LIKE
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PAGE 03 ANTANA 01617 061426Z

THOSE, FOR EXAMPLE, WHICH ARE PRESENTLY FINDING AN INTEREST
IN STIRRING UP THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN THE HORN OF
AFRICA." DRM SOLEMNLY APPLEALS FOR CESSATION OF FIGHTING
IN THAT AREA.

6. FOREIGN MINISTRY IS SOLE INTERLOCUTOR FOR DRM
AUTHORIZED TO CORRESPOND WITH FOREIGN EMBASSIES ABD VICE
VERSA.

7. COMMENT: THERE IS LITTLE NEW IN THIS POLICY STATEMENT,
BUT IT WILL BE USEFUL REFERENCE DOCUMENT IN DISCUSSIONS
ITH MALAGASY OFFICIALS. REITERATION OF INTEREST IN "ZERO
EQUILIBRIUM" OF FOREIGN FORCES IN INDIAN OCEAN,AS WELL
AS "TOUS AZIMUTS" AND NON-ALIGNMENT, CAN BE USEFULLY CITED
BACL TO DRM, PARTICULARLY IT IT EVER SHOWS ANY EVIDENT
INTEREST IN CLOSER MILITARY TIES WITH USSR. MENTION OF
HEGEMONISM BY MINISTER WAS AN INTERESTING POINT, PARTICU-
LARLY AS IT WAS NOT USED BY CHINESE AMBASSADOR. INCLUSION
IN SAME SENTENCE OF EUROPE AS ONE OF CONTINENTS I WHICH
DRM SUPPORTS VARIOUS STRUGGLES MAY INDICATE VEILED SYMPATHY
FOR SOVIET SATELLITES, THUS ILLUSTRATING TRUE NON-ALIGNMENT.
ON THE OTHER HAND, PHRASING OF PASSAGE ON HORN COULD ONLY
BE DIRECTED AT WESTERN POWERS, ISRAEL AND SOME ARAB STATES
AS THE COUNTRIES STIRRING UP THAT REGION. (I WILL
TRY TO CLARIFY THIS IN MY CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY.)
SPECIFICATION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY AS SOLE INTERLOCUTOR
APPARENTLY BROUGHT ABOUT BY RECENT DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

SOME EMBASSIES AND OTHER MINISTERIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO
ARRANGE COURTESY CALLS ON NEW CABINET MEMBERS. BARRETT

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Message Attributes

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Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES DIPLOMATIC CORPS; RESTATES FOREIGN POLICY OF DRM (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR)
TAGS: AFIN, PFOR
To: STATE INFO DAR ES SALAAM MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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